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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Takuya HIROMATSU et al.

Continuation Application of
Serial Number: 08/726,468

Filed: October 4, 1996

For: SYSTEM FOR EXHAUST GAS PURIFICATION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner
For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Sir:

March 13, 2000

Prior to calculation of the fee and examination on the merits of the above-identified patent application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1,

insert at the beginning:

--This application is a continuation of application
Serial Number 08/726,468, filed September 4, 1998, as a

09524575-031300

A. [Signature]